

**United States District Court**  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
SHERMAN DIVISION

DEMARRET JONES

v.

UNIVESCO, INC.

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CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:19-CV-509-SDJ

**PRELIMINARY SCHEDULING ORDER**

The Court, after reviewing the case management report required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) and conferring with the parties either by e-mail or scheduling conference, enters this case-specific order which controls disposition of this action pending further order of the Court. The following actions shall be completed by the date indicated.<sup>1</sup>

**DEADLINES**

11/29/2019	Deadline for motions to transfer.
12/16/2019	Deadline to add parties other than opt-in Plaintiffs pursuant to any order(s) granting FLSA conditional certification.
01/13/2020	Deadline for Plaintiffs to file amended pleadings. (A motion for leave to amend is required.)
01/27/2020	Deadline for Defendant to file amended pleadings. (A motion for leave to amend is required.)
02/12/2020	Deadline for Plaintiffs to file any motion(s) for conditional certification.
60 days after the motion for conditional certification is filed	Deadline for Defendant to file its response to Plaintiff's motion for conditional certification.
14 days after the motion for conditional certification is filed	Deadline for Plaintiffs to file any reply in support of their motion for conditional certification.
04/27/2020	Deadline for Parties to notify the Court of the name, address, and telephone number of the agreed-upon mediator, or request that the Court select a mediator, if they are unable to agree on

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<sup>1</sup> If a deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday as defined in Fed. R. Civ. P. 6, the effective date is the first federal court business day following the deadline imposed.

one.

06/03/2020

Mediation must occur by this date.

After the class certification issue has been resolved, the court will enter a more comprehensive Scheduling Order, setting deadlines for expert reports, dispositive motions, and trial.

### **SCOPE OF DISCOVERY**

Modification. Taking into account the needs of the case, the amount in controversy, the parties' resources, the importance of the issues at stake in the litigation, and the importance of the proposed discovery in resolving the issues, the Court modifies the parameters of discovery in the following respects. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(2).

Disclosure. The parties are reminded of the requirement, set out in this court's Initial Order Governing Proceedings, to have already disclosed, without awaiting a discovery request, information in addition to that required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26, including names of persons likely to have, and documents containing, information "relevant to the claim or defense of any party."

If there are any questions about whether information is "relevant to the claim or defense of any party" review Local Rule CV-26(d). A party that fails to timely disclose any of the information required to be disclosed by order of this court or by the Federal Rules of Procedure, will not, unless such failure is harmless, be permitted to use such evidence at trial, hearing or in support of a motion.

Electronic Discovery. Electronically stored information will be produced in hard copy form or multi-page TIFF format, unless the parties agree otherwise.

The parties are excused from the pretrial disclosure requirements set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(3), as such disclosure is cumulative of this court's pre-trial order procedures.

### **DISCOVERY DISPUTES**

In the event the parties encounter a discovery dispute, no motions to compel may be filed until after the parties fulfill the "meet and confer" requirement imposed by this Court's Local Rule CV-7(h). If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute without court intervention, the parties must then call the Court's chambers to schedule a telephone conference regarding the subject matter of the dispute prior to filing any motion to compel. After reviewing the dispute, the Court will resolve the dispute, order the parties to file an appropriate motion, or direct the parties to call the discovery hotline.

A magistrate judge is available during business hours to immediately hear discovery disputes and to enforce provisions of the rules. The hotline number is (903) 590-1198. *See* Local Rule CV-26(e).

### RESOURCES

The Eastern District of Texas website (<http://www.txed.uscourts.gov>) contains information about **Electronic filing, which is mandatory**, Local Rules, telephone numbers, general orders, frequently requested cases, the Eastern District fee schedule, and other information. The electronic filing HelpLine is 1-866-251-7534.

### COMPLIANCE


A party is not excused from the requirements of this scheduling order because dispositive motions are pending, the party has not completed its investigation, the party challenges the sufficiency of the opposing party's disclosure or because another party has failed to comply with this order or the rules.

Failure to comply with relevant provisions of the Local Rules, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or this order may result in the exclusion of evidence at trial, the imposition of sanctions by the Court, or both. If a fellow member of the Bar makes a just request for cooperation or seeks scheduling accommodation, a lawyer will not arbitrarily or unreasonably withhold consent. However, the Court is not bound to accept agreements of counsel to extend deadlines imposed by rule or court order. *See* Local Rule AT-3(j).

### OTHER MATTERS

1. Please note the amendments to the Local Rules regarding motion practice. If a document filed electronically exceeds ten pages in length, including attachments, a paper copy of the filed document must be sent contemporaneously to the undersigned's chambers in Plano. *See* Local Rule CV-5(a)(9). Courtesy copies over twenty pages long should be bound to the left, and voluminous exhibits should be separated by dividers.
2. If necessary, the parties should notify the court if assistance is needed in selecting a mediator.
3. Any reply or sur-reply must be filed in accordance with Local Rule CV-6 and Local Rule CV-7(f). The parties are reminded that "[t]he court need **not** wait for the reply or sur-reply before ruling on the motion." Local Rule CV-7(f) (emphasis added).

**So ORDERED and SIGNED this 14th day of November, 2019.**

  
SEAN D. JORDAN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE